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Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----------022896 180935Z /14/15
R 170903Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8630

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 05463

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, EAID, TW
SUBJECT: US WITHDRAWAL FROM SAFED AND JCRR

REF: TAIPEI 05404

1. Y.S. TSIANG, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FORMER JCRR COMMISSIONER, INFORMED AMBASSADOR LATE AUGUST 16 THAT HE HAD MET EARLIER THAT DAY WITH JCRR CHAIRMAN ROBERT C. T. LEE TO DISCUSS FUTURE OF JCRR AS RESULT OF USG DECISION TO TERMINATE JCRR AGREEMENT. TSIANG STATED THAT HE WAS NOT IN FAVOR OF EITHER ALTERNATIVE MENTIONED BY LEE TO ECON COUN AUGUST 10 (PARA 3, REFTEL). TSIANG'S PREFERENCE IS FOR JCRR TO BECOME A FOUNDATION (WHICH PRESUMABLY WOULD BE ESTABLISHED BY GROC BUT WOULD NOT FUNCTION AS DIRECT AGENCY OF GROC). TSIANG WAS VAGUE AS TO HOW NEW ORGANIZATION COULD BE ESTABLISHED LEGALLY (THIS WILL BE REQUIRED SINCE TERMINATION AGREEMENT REMOVES EXISTING LEGAL BASIS IN EYES OF GROC), BUT IN HIS OPINION FOUNDATION IS BEST WAY TO MAINTAIN AUTONOMY JCRR NOW ENJOYS. AMBASSADOR DID NOT COMMENT ON TSIANG'S IDEA EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT IN THE FUTURE IT MIGHT BE EASIER FOR AMERICAN EXPERTS
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AND SCIENTISTS WHOSE SERVICES JCRR MIGHT WISH TO USE, TO COOPERATE WITH SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION TO JCRR IF THAT ORGANIZATION WERE NOT AN INTEGRAL PART OF GROC.

2. TSIANG COMMENTED THAT IT WILL TAKE CONSIDERABLE TIME TO DECIDE HOW TO PROVIDE FOR CONTINUED FUNCTIONING OF JCRR AND TO IMPLEMENT THAT DECISION. AMBASSADOR

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STATED THAT USG APPRECIATES THAT FACT AND IS WILLING
THEREFORE TO CONSIDER ANY REASONABLE PROPOSAL FROM
GROC TO POSTPONE TERMINATION OF JCRR AGREEMENT, I.E.
A DELAY LOGICALLY RELATED TO RECONSTITUTION OF JCRR
AS SOLELY CHINESE INSTITUTION. AS YET, USG HAS NOT
RECEIVED SUCH A PROPOSAL AND IN THE ABSENCE OF ONE EMBASSY
FEELS OBLIGED TO NOTIFY GROC FORMALLY AT TIME OF ECON COUN
KYLE'S DEPARTURE IN EARLY SEPTEMBER OF USG DECISION TO
TERMINATE JCRR AGREEMENT EFFECTIVE SIX MONTHS FROM DATE
OF NOTIFICATION. TSIANG STATED THAT HE WOULD REPORT
AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS TO PREMIER Y.S. SUN AND CHAIRMAN
LEE. UNGER

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